

Application No.: 09/773,944
Amendment dated: February 9, 2004
Reply to Office Action of October 9, 2003

c.) Remarks:

Claims 1 and 3-16 are pending in this application. Claims 3 and 6 have been amended in various particulars as indicated hereinabove.

The Abstract and claim 6 have been amended to avoid the objections.

Claim 3 has been amended to define the sense in which the optical axis is "opposed", by adding the reference to the x-y plane. This should avoid the 112 rejection.

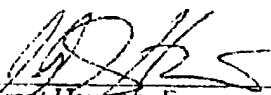
Claims 1, 3-10, and 14-16 were rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by the Flanders, *et al.* patent. Claims 11-13 were further rejected in view of the admitted prior art. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claims 1, 6, and 11 require 'finding a desired position of an optical axis of the optical component relative to a rest position of the optical axis of the optical component', which is not shown by the reference. Claim 1 further requires that "the rest position is found after the desired position is found to account for any plastic deformation induced during the step of finding the desired position." This is also not shown. Thus there is no anticipation. Likewise the claims cannot be obvious.

Applicant believes that the present application is in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited. Should any questions arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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